Groups	Courses in brief
'A'	Degree and Post Graduation level courses in Medical (including B.A. M & S. etc). Engineering, Agriculture, Veterinary Science, Fisheries etc.
'B'	Diploma level courses in Medical, Engg. etc. Commercial Pilot Licence course, Degree and Post Graduation levels courses in Business Admn. Science subjects etc.
*c	Centificate courses in EnggTechology etc. Diploma courses in Agriculture, Pharmacy, Veterinary Science, Fisheries, Dairy Development etc. Post-Gradute courses in Arts and Commerce subjects.
'D'	General courses upto Graduate level (2nd year and onwards)
'E'	Classes XI and XII in 10+2 system, Intermediate courses and first year of general courses upto graduate level.

SC status to 'Navshudra' Caste in Uttar Pradesh

1918. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to refer to reply to Unstrarred Question No. 3942 given in the Rajya Sabha on 12th May, 1997 and state:

(a) the reasons for postponing the matter of granting Scheduled Caste status to "Navshudra" the caste from East Bengal settled in Uttar Pradesh after partition; and

(b) by when this Caste will attain the status of Scheduled Castes in Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) The matter is being examined in consultation with the Government of Uttar Pradesh and the Registrar General of India in the light of modalities approved by the Government on

15.06.1999. No time can be specified as proposals are received from time to time and processed in accordance with the prescribed procedure.

Pitiable condition of Elderly people in Himachal Pradesh

1919. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to observe the 1999 and 2000 as the years of elderly people;

(b) if so, the steps taken and schemes introduced to ameliorate the pitiable condition of this section of society in the State of Himachal Pradesh from which most of the youths are serving in Army;

(c) whether Government propose to set up a National Commission for Old People; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTIC AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) The year 1999 has been declared by the United Nations as the International Year for Older Persons while the National Policy on Older persons, announced by the Government, mentions that the year 2000 will be declared as the National Year for Older Persons.

(a) To observe the year 1999 as International Year of Older Persons, the Government announced the National Policy on Older Persons in January, 1999. A National Council for Older Persons has since been set up to operationalise the National Policy. Several initiatives^neasures have been taken in pursuance of the National Policy. All State Governments including the State Government of Himachal Pradesh have been requested to chalk out an Action Plan for welfare of older persons, as envisaged in the Policy.

Besides, the Ministry had reviewed and revised its two on going schemes for welfare of older persons in light of the National Policy on Older Persons and these are now called as: (i) An Integrated Programme for Older Persons and (ii) Scheme of Assistance to Panchayati Raj Institutions/Voluntary Organisations/Self Help Groups for Construction of Old Age Home/Multi Service Centres for